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January 14

Perley I. Fitts, Commissioner
Department of Agriculture
State House
Concord, New Hampshire

Dear Sir:

You have asked whether the State Soil Conservation Committee meets the requirements of a "Local Organization" as that term is used in Public Law 566 of the 83d Congress.

It is the opinion of this office that the committee, as established by chapter 151, Laws of 1945, does meet the requirements of a local organization.

Public Law 566 states in part that a local organization is any . . . soil or water conservation district, . . . or any other agency having authority under state law to carry out, maintain and operate the works of improvement. Section 4 of chapter 151 provides that the Soil Conservation Committee may, with the advice and consent of the Governor and Council, conduct surveys, investigations, research, relative to soil conservation; they may carry out measures for the prevention and control of soil erosion; they may cooperate and enter into agreements with any agency; they may construct, improve and maintain erosion control structures.

Subject to required appropriations of money, and the approval of the Governor and Council, you are properly considered to be within the term "local organization".

Very truly yours,

Arthur E. Bean, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

AEB,Jr/T

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